

Onesimus Foundation Ltd

**Strategic Directions
2024 - 2027**



Onesimus

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Foundation Details

Foundation Name: Onesimus Foundation Ltd

ABN: 89 610 863 280

ACN: 610 863 280

Established: 15 June 2016

Founding Directors: Norman Reed, Rachel Wolf, Paul Parks

Current Directors: Norman Reed, Dorothy Hobbs, Rosalie Martin, Neale Buchanan Paul Hayes, and Paul Parks

Business Name: Onesimus Foundation Ltd
Trading Name: Onesimus Foundation Ltd.
Business Premises: 550 East Derwent Way, Risdon Vale, TAS, 7016
Domain Name: www.onesimus.org.au

Registered: 15 June 2016
Location Registered: 550 East Derwent Hwy, Risdon Vale, Tasmania
Foundation Structure: Not for Profit Company Limited by Guarantee

Onesimus Foundation is a registered public benevolent institution with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and an approved deductible gift recipient ABN: 89610863280




Memorandum of Understandings

Onesimus has entered into three Memorandum of Understandings with the:

1. Tasmanian Prison Service
2. Tasmanian Department of Education
3. Christian Family Centre, Hobart

<p>What's in a name?</p>	<p>The name Onesimus, derived from the Greek language, translates to 'useful or profitable.' This name finds its roots in the biblical book of Philemon, where Onesimus, once a runaway slave leading a 'useless and unprofitable' life, undergoes a transformative experience in prison after meeting the Apostle Paul. Sent back to his owner, Philemon, not as a slave but as a 'useful and profitable' brother, Onesimus's life takes a positive turn.</p>
<p>Who we are?</p>	<p>Onesimus is actively involved with individuals in the justice system, their families, relatives, communities affected by imprisonment in Tasmania. Onesimus strives to inspire and collaborate with government and community agencies to address the significant and widespread repercussions of offending behaviour.</p>
<p>What we do?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Our Vision</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Creating Healthy Relationships, Transforming Lives, Changing Communities</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Our Mission</p> <p style="text-align: center;">We work alongside individuals in the justice system, their families, and communities to nurture positive family connections during incarceration. Our aim is to support their successful reintegration into society as valued, productive members with a diminished risk of reoffending.</p>
<p>How do we do it?</p>	<p>In collaboration with other agencies, Onesimus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritises the rights of children to maintain a healthy relationship with an imprisoned parent. • Views interactions of individuals in the justice system as opportunities for collaborative, positive interventions. • Considers a prison sentence as an opportunity for positive change for those incarcerated and their families. • Supports stakeholders to help offenders take responsibility for the care and nurture of their families while in prison. • Facilitates agencies in the creation of pathways for those with offending behaviour to engage with and sustain productive relationships with their families. • Supports stakeholders to implement interventions to equip individuals in the justice system with relational and parenting skills. • Addresses the specific needs of families affected by a loved one with offending behaviour through collaboratively developing targeted interventions. • Inspires the creation of programs and approaches based on evidence-based research to support individuals in the justice system. • Disseminates research into the needs of families of offenders from the time of arrest, incarceration, and reintegration. • Raises public awareness of challenges faced by children and families affected by incarceration. • Empowers community and government agencies to collaboratively support children and families affected by incarceration. • Advocates for the needs of families affected by incarceration.

Current Directors

<p>Norm Reed</p>	<p>Norm Reed the retired pastor of the Christian Family Centre adjacent to Risdon Prison, is the Founder and Executive Officer of Onesimus. Following his 2014 Churchill Fellowship trip to Europe and Singapore to explore family support services, he introduced the role of Family Engagement Worker at Risdon Prison and facilitated the development of various family support and reintegration initiatives.</p>	
<p>Dorothy Hobbs</p>	<p>Dorothy Hobbs worked in the Tasmanian Government, serving as a Policy Analyst across emergency management, family and sexual violence, and children and youth portfolios. In her recent role at the Department of Communities Tasmania, she managed the implementation of the Strong Families Safe Kids: Next Steps Action Plan 2021-2023. Dorothy was also a member of the Just Desserts: Drug Court Incentives Group, providing support for the Court Mandated Drug (CMD) Diversion Program in the Magistrates Court.</p>	
<p>Rosalie Martin</p>	<p>Rosalie Martin a professional Speech Pathologist and Criminologist, founded Connect42 and was honoured as Tasmanian Australian of the Year in 2017 for her efforts in helping prisoners improve their reading skills. She is deeply passionate about prison literacy and believes in the significant role speech pathology plays in achieving justice and social equity. Rosie continues to make substantial contributions to these areas.</p>	
<p>Paul Hayes</p>	<p>Paul Hayes formerly a Probation and Parole Officer with NSW Corrections, moved to Tasmania, where he worked as a psychologist in Disability Services. Managing a team of allied health professionals conducting holistic assessments to identify barriers impacting clients' employment, Paul continues to practice as a psychologist in private practice.</p>	
<p>Paul Parks</p>	<p>Paul Parks the Chairperson of Onesimus and an inaugural Board Member of the Foundation, brings a wealth of experience as a Special Educator and retired Director of Schools (NSW). His significant background includes roles as a school principal, with experience in juvenile justice settings.</p>	

Strategic Directions	
Priority	We will do this by:
Collaboration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facilitating collaboration among government and community agencies through functional networks. 2. Cultivating awareness of the challenges faced by families of offenders to encourage community agencies to be responsive and solution focused. 3. Building capacity through collaboration and resource-sharing with stakeholders. 4. Engaging organisations to provide support for children and families affected by the justice system.
Relationships	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prioritising strong relationships as the foundation for collaboration with government and community agencies. 2. Actively seeking to understand issues faced by stakeholders and advocating for necessary changes. 3. Adding value to the work of other stakeholders. 4. Engaging with churches and faith groups to address the needs of individuals in the justice system. 5. Maintaining a commitment to providing strong and effective service to the Prison Service and Departments of Justice.
Innovative Solutions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identifying key issues and gaps in the care of individuals in the justice system and developing innovative solutions. 2. Actively working to remove obstacles hindering practical solutions and fostering a creative and practical problem-solving approach. 3. Advocating for children and families of people in the justice system. 4. Demonstrating inventive and pragmatic methods for problem-solving that do not rely on extensive resources. 5. Staying up to date with cutting-edge local and international research and sharing information with stakeholders.
Sustainability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identifying and empowering key individuals to actively support and engage with the goals of Onesimus, ensuring the Foundation's continuity. 2. Cultivating and sustaining a robust partnership with the Christian Churches. 3. Streamlining roles within Onesimus to distribute responsibilities, fostering collaboration, and building the organisational capacity needed for sustained operations into the future. 4. Implementing effective communication strategies to articulate and uphold an enduring plan to our key partners and stakeholders.